

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 EB-07 AID-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DLOS-06 L-03 H-02 SAL-01
TRSE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 EA-09 /065 W
----- 031575 /63

R 161300Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4817
INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

UNCLAS NAIROBI 14162

PASS ALSO USDOC DIB/OIM

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: FISHERIES OF KENYA

REF (A) STATE 296598 (NOTAL), (B) CASABLANCA A-34 OF
OCTOBER 31, 1975 (NOTAL), (C) NAIROBI A-65 OF AUG. 20,
1976 (NOTAL)

1. INFO IN PARAS 2 THRU 6 IS IN REPLY TO SPECIFIC INQUIRIES
RAISED BY NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), WHICH
IS UPDATING REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE'S 1975 REPORT ON
KENYAN FISHERIES. EMB HAS ALSO REPORTED SOME RECENT DEVELOP-
MENTS IN THE COUNTRY'S COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY WHICH MAY
BE OF INTEREST TO NMFS AND USDOC/OIM.

2. 1975 TUNA LANDINGS:
BIG-EYE TUNA 46.3 METRIC TONS
BLUE-FIN TUNA 874 MT.
YELLOW-FIN TUNA 51.2 MT.
1976 TUNA LANDINGS (THRU AUGUST):
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BIG-EYE TUNA 43.5 MT.
BLUE-FIN TUNA NEGLIGIBLE
YELLOW-FIN TUNA 182 MT.

3. FISHERIES DEPT. ATTRIBUTED LARGE JUMP IN 1976 YELLOW-
FIN CATCH TO INCREASE IN SPORTS FISHING ALONG COAST (LARGE

TUNA CATCHES REPORTED IN FEBRUARY AND JUNE -- 87 MT. EACH).
ACCORDING TO ASST. DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES, FOREIGN TRAWLERS,
WHICH PREDOMINATED IN COMMERCIAL TUNA FISHING DURING 1974
HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM EAST AFRICAN COASTAL ZONE DUE IN-
CREASED OPERATIONAL COSTS.

4. 1974 SHRIMP (PRAWN) LANDINGS:

50 MT WORTH 190,000 SHILLINGS

1975 LANDINGS:

49 MT. WORTH 262,000 SHILLINGS.

TWO JAPANESE TRAWLERS PREVIOUSLY OPERATING OFF MOMBASA
HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN RETIRED. FISHERIES DEPT. KNOWS OF NO
OTHER FOREIGN TRAWLING GOING ON IN KENYAN WATERS.

5. FULL NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED IN RFA'S REPORT

ARE: SYED M.A. SHAH, BENSON M. OGILO, PAUL KONGERE (NO
LONGER WITH FISHERIES DEPT.), AND SHAKUNTALA MOORJANI.

6. EMB DOES NOT HAVE COPY OF CASABLANCA A-34 OF OCT. 31,
1975. ONLY COPY OF RFA REPORT IN FILES APPEARS TO BE
WORKING DRAFT FORWARDED TO ECONOMIC SECTION FOR REVIEW BY
DENNIS WEIDNER, USDOC, IN SEPT. 1975.

TABLE NUMBERS IN THIS DRAFT APPARENTLY DO NOT CORRESPOND TO
THOSE APPEARING IN FINAL REPORT (E.G. THERE ARE NO TABLES
NUMBERED 11 AND 12). THEREFORE, IN LIEU OF CABLING
UPDATED STATISTICS REQUESTED IN PARA 2C OF STATE 296598,
EMB IS POUCHING TO DEPT AND RFA CASABLANCA COPIES OF
FISHERIES DEPT 1975 REPORT, CONTAINING DATA ON CATCHES
FOR THAT YEAR. 1976 REPORT SHOULD BE READY IN SPRING 1977.
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7. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, ASST. DIRECTOR OF
FISHERIES, P.N. KAMANDE SAID THAT WITH DEPARTURE OF
TRADITIONAL FOREIGN (ROK, ROC, JAPANESE) VESSELS FROM
WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN, COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY IS
LITERALLY WIDE OPEN FOR KENYAN OR OTHER FOREIGN EXPLOI-
TATION. KAMANDE BELIEVES KENYA WILL OPT FOR 200-MILE EX.
GIK HAS STARTED TO INVESTIGATE POTENTIAL RESOURCES
THROUGH MOMBASA RESEARCH FACILITIES DESCRIBED IN RFA'S
REPORT. IN ADDITION, EAST AFRICAN MARINE RESEARCH
ORGANIZATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH FRENCH FIRM, CONDUCTED
LONG-LINE STUDIES DEMONSTRATING GOOD POTENTIAL FOR
YELLOW-FIN TUNA FISHING. AS FIRST STEP IN DEVELOPING
KENYA'S OWN COASTAL FLEET, FISHERIES DEPT COMMISSIONED
45-METER VESSEL, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN NETHERLANDS,
FOR MID-WATER AND BOTTOM TRAWLING. SHIP MAY ALSO BE
CONVERTED TO LONG-LINE FISHING TO TAP TUNA MARKET.
KAMANDE EXPECTS TO HAVE TRAWLER IN OPERATION BY DEC. 1977.

8. UPDATE ON KENYA FISHING INDUSTRIES (KFI): DEPARTURE OF FOREIGN TRAWLERS FROM EAST AFRICAN COAST AND, PARTICULARLY, THE RETIREMENT OF TWO JAPANESE BOATS MENTIONED ABOVE, SEVERELY REDUCED KFI'S SUPPLIES OF CRUSTACEANS AND TUNA. DURING EARLY NOVEMBER TRIP TO MOMBASA, COMMERCIAL OFFICER NOTED THAT FIRM'S COLD STORAGE FACILITIES WERE BEING USED FOR TEA STOCKS. IN AN EFFORT TO KEEP COMPANY AFLOAT ECONOMICALLY, KFI PURCHASED SECOND-HAND 40-FT. TRAWLER FROM INDIA TO ENTER FISHING BUSINESS ITSELF WITH INDIAN CAPTAIN AND KENYAN CREW. KFI MANAGER IS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RESULTS SO FAR. KFI EXPECTS TO REACH 2-3 TONS PER MONTH AND START TRAINING CREW IN LOBSTER FISHING, WHICH PROMISES HIGHER PROFITS. EVENTUALLY, KFI WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE UP TO THREE MORE TRAWLERS. ACCORDING TO FIRM'S MANAGER, FKI HAS NO INTEREST IN TAKING OVER THE JAPANESE BOATS.

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9. IN OCTOBER, KFI DISCUSSED POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. COMPANY, CONTINENTAL SEAFOODS OF SECAUCUS, NEW JERSEY. UNDER ORIGINAL PROPOSAL, CONTINENTAL WOULD PROVIDE TWO TRAWLERS FOR SHRIMP AND LOBSTER FISHING AND SHARE OPERATING COSTS 50-50 WITH KFI. LATTER'S MANAGER ADVISED EMBASSY RECENTLY THAT KFI STILL STUDYING PROJECT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHING INDUSTRY, REPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NAIROB14162
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760463-1287
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761237/aaaabfrv.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 296598, 76 CASABLANCA A-34
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FISHERIES OF KENYA
TAGS: EFIS, KE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006